

OCT 02 2006

MORRISON | FOERSTER425 MARKET STREET
SAN FRANCISCO
CALIFORNIA 94105-2482TELEPHONE: 415.268.7000
FACSIMILE: 415.268.7522

WWW.MOF-FO.COM

MORRISON & FOERSTER LLP
NEW YORK, SAN FRANCISCO,
LOS ANGELES, PALO ALTO,
SAN DIEGO, WASHINGTON, D.C.
DENVER, NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
ORANGE COUNTY, SACRAMENTO,
WALNUT CREEK, CANTURY CITY
TOKYO, LONDON, BEIJING,
SHANGHAI, HONG KONG,
SINGAPORE, BRUSSELS

To:

NAME:	FACSIMILE:	TELEPHONE:
Mr. Uwe Hermann EPPING HERMANN FISCHER		

FROM: Kevin R. Spivak

DATE: October 2, 2006

Number of pages with cover page:	2	
-------------------------------------	---	--

Preparer of this slip has confirmed that facsimile number given is correct: 12462/vw

Comments:

U.S. Patent Application No. 09/890,147
Your Reference: 1999P1124 US N
Our Reference: 44912-20088.00

Thank you for your facsimile dated September 22, 2006. Upon review of the Patent and Trademark Office website, the projected date of issuance for the first Office Action is in 3 months or December 2006.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you need anything further.

Best regards,

Violet White
Assistant to Kevin R. Spivak

To ensure compliance with requirements imposed by the United States Internal Revenue Service, Morrison & Foerster LLP informs you that, if any advice concerning one or more U.S. Federal tax issues is contained in this facsimile (including any attachments), such advice is not intended or written to be used, and cannot be used, for the purpose of (i) avoiding penalties under the Internal Revenue Code or (ii) promoting, marketing or recommending to another party any transaction or matter addressed herein.

CAUTION - CONFIDENTIAL

This facsimile contains confidential information that may also be privileged. Unless you are the addressee (or authorized to receive for the addressee); you may not copy, use, or distribute it. If you have received it in error, please advise Morrison & Foerster LLP immediately by telephone or facsimile and return it promptly by mail.

VA-178177

OCT 02 2006 Page 1 of 1

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF
COMMERCE**

United States Patent and Trademark Office

Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

www.uspto.gov

MORRISON & FOERSTER LLP
1650 TYSONS BOULEVARD
SUITE 300
MCLEAN VA 22102

DATE : 09/27/2006

To: Applicant of Serial Number 09890147
Filed on 26-JUL-2001
(Art Unit 2151)

It is estimated that this application will receive an Office action in approximately 3 months. This is an estimate that is based on the current inventory level of applications filed in this art area and the current staffing levels in this Art Unit. The USPTO is dedicated to minimizing first action and total pendency, and we are targeting resources to help address backlogs in art areas with high new application filings. Thank you for your inquiry.

Customer Service Office in Technology Center: 2100

Phone Number: 571-272-2100
Central Fax Number: 571-273-8300